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benefit analyses, with respect to proposed major regulations, and for publishing such assessments and analyses in the FEDERAL REGISTER as required by section 304 of the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 2204e)

(2) Provide direction to Department agencies in the appropriate methods of risk assessment and cost-benefit analyses and coordinate and review all risk assessments and cost-benefit analyses prepared by any agency of the Department.

(3) Enter into contracts, grants, or cooperative agreements to further research programs in the food and agriculture sciences (7 U.S.C. 3318).

(b) *Reservation.* The following authority is reserved to the Chief Economist: Review all proposed decisions having substantial economic policy implications.

[60 FR 56393, Nov. 8, 1995, as amended at 63 FR 66979, Dec. 4, 1998]

§ 2.72 Chairman, World Agricultural Outlook Board.

(a) *Delegations.* Pursuant to § 2.29 (a)(3) through (a)(7), the following delegations of authority are made by the Chief Economist to the Chairman, World Agricultural Outlook Board:

(1) *Related to food and agriculture outlook and situation.* (i) Coordinate and review all crop and commodity data used to develop outlook and situation material within the Department.

(ii) Oversee and clear for consistency analytical assumptions and results of all estimates and analyses which significantly relate to international and domestic commodity supply and demand, including such estimates and analyses prepared for public distribution by the Foreign Agricultural Service, the Economic Research Service, or by any other agency or office of the Department.

(2) *Related to weather and climate.* (i) Advise the Secretary on climate and weather activities, and coordinate the development of policy options on weather and climate.

(ii) Coordinate all weather and climate information and monitoring activities within the Department and provide a focal point in the Depart-

ment for weather and climate information and impact assessment.

(iii) Arrange for appropriate representation to attend all meetings, hearings, and task forces held outside the Department which require such representation.

(iv) Designate the Executive Secretary of the USDA Weather and Climate Program Coordinating Committee.

(3) *Related to interagency commodity estimates committees.* (i) Establish Interagency Commodity Estimates Committees for Commodity Credit Corporation price-supported commodities, for major products thereof, and for commodities where a need for such a committee has been identified, in order to bring together estimates and supporting analyses from participating agencies, and to develop official estimates of supply, utilization, and prices for commodities, including the effects of new program proposals on acreage, yield, production, imports, domestic utilization, price, income, support programs, carryover, exports, and availabilities for export.

(ii) Designate the Chairman, who shall also act as Secretary, for all Interagency Commodity Estimates Committees.

(iii) Assure that all committee members have the basic assumptions, background data and other relevant data regarding the overall economy and market prospects for specific commodities.

(iv) Review for consistency of analytical assumptions and results all proposed decisions made by Commodity Estimates Committees prior to any release outside the Department.

(4) *Related to remote sensing.* (i) Provide technical assistance, coordination, and guidance to Department agencies in planning, developing, and carrying out satellite remote sensing activities to assure full consideration and evaluation of advanced technology.

(ii) Coordinate administrative, management, and budget information relating to the Department's remote sensing activities including:

(A) Inter- and intra-agency meetings, correspondence, and records;

(B) Budget and management tracking systems; and

(C) Inter-agency contacts and technology transfer.

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(iii) Designate the Executive Secretary for the Remote Sensing Coordination Committee.

(5) *Related to long-range commodity and agricultural-sector projections.* Establish committees of the agencies of the Department to coordinate the development of a set of analytical assumptions and long-range agricultural-sector projections (2 years and beyond) based on commodity projections consistent with these assumptions and coordinated through the Interagency Commodity Estimates Committees.

(b) *Reservation.* The following authority is reserved to the Chief Economist: Review all proposed decisions having substantial economic policy implications.

§ 2.73 Director, Office of Energy Policy and New Uses.

(a) Delegations. Pursuant to § 2.29(a)(11), the following delegations of authority are made by the Chief Economist to the Director, Office of Energy Policy and New Uses:

(1) Providing Department leadership in:

(i) Analyzing and evaluating existing and proposed energy policies and strategies, including those regarding the allocation of scarce resources;

(ii) Developing energy policies and strategies, including those regarding the allocation of scarce resources;

(iii) Reviewing and evaluating Departmental energy and energy-related programs and program progress;

(iv) Developing agricultural and rural components of national energy policy plans;

(v) Preparing reports on energy and energy-related policies and programs required under Act of Congress and Executive Orders, including those involving testimony and reports on legislative proposals.

(2) Providing Departmental oversight and coordination with respect to resources available for energy and energy-related activities, including funds transferred to USDA from departments and agencies of the Federal government pursuant to interagency agreements.

(3) Representing the Chief Economist at conferences, meetings, and other contacts where energy matters are dis-

cussed, including liaison with the Department of Energy, the Environmental Protection Agency, and other governmental departments and agencies.

(4) Providing the Chief Economist with such assistance as requested to perform the duties delegated to the Director concerning energy and new uses.

(5) Working with the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations to maintain Congressional and public contacts in energy matters, including development of legislative proposals, preparation of reports on legislation pending in congress, appearances before Congressional committees, and related activities.

(6) These delegations exclude the energy management actions related to the internal operations of the Department as delegated to the Assistant Secretary for Administration.

(7) Conduct a program on the economic feasibility of new uses of agricultural products. Assist agricultural researchers by evaluating the economic and market potential of new agricultural products in the initial phase of development and contributing to prioritization of the Departmental research agenda.

(8) Administer a competitive biodiesel fuel education grants program (7 U.S.C. 8104).

(9) Implement a memorandum of understanding with the Secretary of Energy regarding cooperation in the application of hydrogen and fuel cell technology programs for rural communities and agricultural producers (7 U.S.C. 8107).

(b) [Reserved]

[64 FR 40736, July 28, 1999, as amended at 68 FR 27446, May 20, 2003]

Subpart M—Delegations of Authority by the Chief Financial Officer

§ 2.75 Deputy Chief Financial Officer.

Pursuant to § 2.28, the following delegation of authority is made by the Chief Financial Officer to the Deputy Chief Financial Officer, to be exercised only during the absence or unavailability of the Chief Financial Officer: Perform all the duties and exercise all